pereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria 22313, on the date shown below. Dated: October 7, 2003 Signatur

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OCT 1 / 2003 TC 17001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Frederick F. Lange et al.

Application No.: 09/670,918

Filed: September 29, 2000

For: METHOD FOR IMPROVING THE

RELIABILITY OF BRITTLE MATERIALS

THROUGH THE CREATION OF A

THRESHOLD STRENGTH

Confirmation No. 1891
Group Art Unit: 1775

Examiner: Michael E. La Villa

Spec

Mail Stop Fee Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 10, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

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